



The President's Daily Brief

26 JUNE 68

~~Top Secret~~ 26 June 1968



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THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
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1. Canada

Trudeau's Liberal Party won handily in yesterday's election. Complete unofficial returns show that it will have 154 of the 264 parliamentary seats, ending six years of minority government in Canada. Trudeau can now move quickly to set in motion his promised review of Canada's foreign and domestic policies.

2. Berlin

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East Germany meanwhile has denounced the allied counteraction of imposing fees for documentation of East Germans traveling to the West. It is certain also to take strong exception to plans of the West German parliament to hold two "work sessions" in West Berlin this fall.

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3. Czechoslovakia

The government's latest liberalization move is the abolition of the restricted zone along the East German border. This is in line with last week's general easing of restrictions on domestic and foreign travel. The East Germans also will not mistake Prague's intent to needle them at a time when they are playing their own game of greater controls.

4. Communist China

Over the last few days 17 decomposed bodies, most of them bound hand and foot, have been found in Hong Kong waters. They apparently had drifted downstream from the Canton area, where travelers have reported increasing violence since May.

5. Italy

The new government of Premier Leone, sworn in yesterday, is expected to pass its first hurdle next week when a vote of confidence is taken. Although it is a minority government composed entirely of Christian Democrats, other parties are not likely to force early elections.

There are signs, however, that the Communists see a new opportunity in the present shaky state of affairs. They had previously worked to contain student protests, but Party secretary Longo now says he hopes that student strife can be coordinated with a general wave of worker protest.

6. Uruguay

President Pacheco threw down the gauntlet Monday when he ordered troops to move against striking Communist-led bank workers. This could lead to more strife if students and other labor leaders challenge the legality of his move.

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